

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-46. (canceled)

47. (previously presented) Conveyor for material, comprising
a circulating tube circuit,

a series of conveyor flights placed so as to be movable in
the circulating tube circuit, comprising one or more first
conveyor flights comprising a component made of an electrically
conductive and/or magnetic material,

one or more spacers for spacing apart the conveyor flights in
the circulating tube circuit, and

a drive mechanism comprising

a number of coils placed fixedly and consecutively along
a drive member of the circulating tube circuit, for
generating a varying magnetic field within a drive path for
driving the first conveyor flights situated within the drive
path in a drive direction, wherein the drive member is placed
in a bend in the tube circuit, and

a controlling device for controlling the coils for
generating a magnetic field that travels along the drive
path.

48. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein the coils comprise loop-shaped or saddle-shaped windings that at least partially enclose the drive member of the tube circuit, and wherein the loop-shaped or saddle-shaped windings can be folded open for placing said windings around the drive member of the tube circuit.

49. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein the drive mechanism comprises sensors for detecting a position and/or the speed of the at least one first conveyor flights with respect to the coils, and wherein the sensors are connected to the controlling device for transmitting data regarding the position and/or the speed to the controlling device, wherein the controlling device is adapted for excitation of the coils in dependency on the position and/or the speed of the at least one first conveyor flights.

50. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 49, wherein the sensors are placed upstream of the coils and/or between the windings of the coils.

51. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein a conveyance tube of at least a part of the tube circuit

at least near a drive member of the circulating tube circuit, is substantially made of a synthetic material.

52. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein each of the conveyor flights comprises at least one disk-shaped body having an outer circumference that is at least almost equal to the inner circumference of the tube, wherein the one or more spacers comprise a circulating endless conveyance means, wherein the conveyor flights are coupled to the conveyance means at at least a regular distance from each other.

53. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein each of the conveyor flights comprises at least one disk-shaped body having an outer circumference that is at least almost equal to the inner circumference of the tube, wherein the conveyor flights each comprise a spacer, wherein the spacer projects from the conveyor flights in the direction of a next adjacent conveyor flight in the tube circuit.

54. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 53, wherein the disk-shaped body comprises a circumferential edge which circumferential edge projects out of the plane of the disk-shaped body, wherein the circumferential edge projects substantially perpendicular out of the plane of the disk-shaped body.

55. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 54, wherein the circumferential edge on both sides of the disk-shaped body projects out of the plane of the disk-shaped body.

56. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 53, wherein the spacer of a conveyor flight can be coupled to a next adjacent conveyor flight, wherein the one or more spacers substantially connect to the centre of the disk-shaped body.

57. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein the conveyor comprises one or more magnet means placed along the tube circuit for generating a magnetic field for urging at least the first conveyor flights to the centre of a tube of the tube circuit, wherein a conveyance tube of at least a part of the tube circuit at least near the magnet means, is substantially made of a non-magnetic material, preferably of synthetic material.

58. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 57, wherein the one or more magnet means are placed in a bend in the tube circuit where no drive member has been placed.

59. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 57, wherein the one or more magnet means comprises electromagnets.

60. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein a wall of the conveyance tube of at least a part of the tube circuit is provided with one or more guides placed in the tube circuit and extending along the drive direction, which guides guide a medium, such as for instance light, electricity, a fluid or a fluid pressure, wherein the conveyor comprises a wear sensor which is connected to the one or more guides for detecting deviations in the medium, such as for instance a variation in the light intensity, electric voltage or fluid pressure.

61. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein the conveyance tube is at least partially made of metal or an electrically conductive synthetic material.

62. (previously presented) Conveyor according to claim 47, wherein the conveyance tube is provided with an electrically conductive layer for discharging static electricity, wherein the electrically conductive layer preferably is disposed at the outer side of the conveyance tube, wherein the electrically conductive layer preferably comprises a carbon-filled synthetic material, preferably a carbon-filled recycled synthetic material.

63. (previously presented) Drive mechanism for a conveyor for material comprising conveyor for material, comprising a circulating tube circuit, a series of conveyor flights placed so

as to be movable in the circulating tube circuit, comprising one or more first conveyor flights comprising a component made of an electrically conductive and/or magnetic material, one or more spacers for spacing apart the conveyor flights in the circulating tube circuit, wherein the drive mechanism comprising

a number of coils placed fixedly and consecutively along a drive member of the circulating tube circuit, for generating a varying magnetic field within a drive path for driving the first conveyor flights situated within the drive path in a drive direction, wherein the drive member is placed in a bend in the tube circuit, and

a controlling device for controlling the coils for generating a magnetic field that travels along the drive path.

64. (currently amended) Guiding device for a conveyor for material comprising a circulating tube circuit, a series of conveyor flights placed so as to be movable in the circulating tube circuit, comprising one or more first conveyor flights comprising a component made of an electrically conductive and/or magnetic material, one or more spacers for spacing apart the conveyor flights in the circulating tube circuit, wherein the guiding device comprises one or more magnet means placed along the tube circuit for generating a magnetic field for urging at least the first conveyor flights to the centre of a tube of the tube circuit, and wherein the one or more magnet means are placed

in a bend in the tube circuit where no drive member has been placed, wherein the one or more magnet means comprises electromagnets.

65. (canceled)

66. (previously presented) Use of a conveyor for conveying material, comprising a circulating tube circuit, a series of conveyor flights placed so as to be movable in the circulating tube circuit, comprising one or more first conveyor flights comprising a component made of an electrically conductive and/or magnetic material, one or more spacers for spacing apart the conveyor flights in the circulating tube circuit, and a drive mechanism comprising a number of coils placed fixedly and consecutively along a drive member of the circulating tube circuit, wherein the drive member is placed in a bend in the tube circuit, and a controlling device for controlling the coils,

by generating a varying magnetic field within a drive path that travels along the drive path for driving the first conveyor flights situated within the drive path in a drive direction, and for guiding the first conveyor flights through the bend by preventing to large extend that in the bend the conveyor flights rub against the inner wall of the tube circuit.